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The prospectus of this proffered work, curiously enough, raises a question that may bother the botanical nomenclaturists, for Pl. II and the accompanying text depict and describe what is called a new species in that much-vexed genus *Cretægus*, so that when the initial number of the publication appears it will doubtless be found necessary to refer in it to this prior distribution of the species referred to.

T.

**Flowers and Ferns in their Haunts.**<sup>1</sup>—Where to draw the line between pleasant summer reading and didactic literature is often hard to decide, and yet when we go to the country there is a limit to what our trunks will carry, so that some kind of discrimination becomes necessary. This pretty little book will hardly come amiss, from whichever point of view selected, though it may not hold the attention of the reader like a novelette nor suit the needs of a class in botany; but through its pages runs a chatty narrative that is pleasing, and the illustrations show much that can be done by aid of the camera when intelligently used.

T.

**The Dictionary of Gardening.**<sup>2</sup>—As was stated in the *Naturalist* for November, 1900, the excellent *Dictionary of Gardening* of Mr. George Nicholson, curator of the famous Kew Gardens, which for years has been the reference book for gardeners wherever English is read, has had planned for it a supplement, bringing it up to the end of the century. The first volume of this supplement appeared in June, 1900, and a second volume, completing it, was distributed in July of the present year.

No more favorable place than Kew could be found for the elaboration of a compendious work on cultivated plants and the most successful ways of growing them. Not far from 25,000 species are said to be cultivated there. Kew is probably freer than any other establishment in the world from the common fault of botanic gardens, that the collections are grown uncritically under whatever names are attached to them when they are procured; and the very common, if often necessary, defect of botanical gardening, that a great variety of plants requiring dissimilar treatment are huddled together into a

<sup>1</sup> Wright, Mabel Osgood. *Flowers and Ferns in their Haunts*, with illustrations from photographs by the author and J. Horace McFarland. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1901. xix + 358 pp.

<sup>2</sup> Nicholson, George. *The Century Supplement to the Dictionary of Gardening*, a practical encyclopædia of horticulture for gardeners and botanists. George T. King, Hyde Park, Mass.

single house, where they collectively get the handling that best suits their average needs while it is not precisely adapted to any one species, is so far overcome at Kew that representatives of the great English plant houses sometimes go there for training. Mr. Nicholson is at once a good gardener and a lover and student of plants, and he has had the assistance of the best specialists at Kew and elsewhere, so that the *Dictionary*, as now completed, is a work alike valuable to the student of plants and their amateur and professional grower, and it cannot be spared from the shelves wherever plants are grown in variety.

T.

**Bailey's Botany.**<sup>1</sup>—Carrying out his well-known ideas that botany in the secondary schools should begin with the commoner and grosser plants rather than by the use of those demanding the aid of the microscope, Professor Bailey has added another to the series of text-books already well and favorably known. Observation, experiment, and thought are thrust at the pupil throughout it, and the author very neatly acknowledges his obligation to hundreds of young people in many places for instruction "in the point of view," for the book, he tells us, is made for the pupil and, therefore, most appropriately views things as he sees them, even though it may enlarge his view of them before they are dropped.

T.

**Notes.**—Under the guidance of Professors Flahault and Geddes, the late Robert Smith had begun the preparation of a series of botanical maps of Scotland, and since his death two sheets, respectively of Edinburgh and vicinity and northern Perthshire, have been issued in convenient pocket form, with a brief descriptive pamphlet, by John Bartholomew & Co. of Edinburgh.

W. N. Suksdorf has recently distributed excerpts from the *Deutsche botanische Monatsschrift*, extending over the period between November, 1898, and June, 1901, in which are published descriptions of a considerable species of Washington plants believed by him to be new to science.

Several new species and varieties of Californian plants are described by H. M. Hall in the *Botanical Gazette* for June.

Professor Dudley contributes an interesting and well-illustrated paper on the Big Basin Redwood Park to the *Forester* for July.

<sup>1</sup> Bailey, L. H. *Botany*. An elementary text for schools. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1900. xii + 356 pp., 500 figs.